

Appl. No. 09/401,701
Amdt dated April 22, 2004
Reply to Office action of November 4, 2003

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A. General:

1. Applicants acknowledge Examiner's allowance of claims 9-14.
2. Claims 1-8 have been canceled.
3. Allowed claim 9-14 remain in the application.

B. 103 Rejections:

1. The Examiner has rejected claims 1-7 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,646,525 to Gilboa in view of U. S. Patent No. 4,829,250 to Rotier and U.S. Patent No. 5,615,132 to Horton et al.

Applicants have canceled claims 1-7 thereby obviating this rejection.

2. The Examiner has rejected claim 8 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gilboa in view of Rotier as applied to claim 1, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,307,072 to Jones, Jr.

Applicants have canceled claim 8 thereby obviating this rejection.

C. Conclusion:

In view of the above and the allowance of claims 9-14 by the Examiner, Applicants submit that this application is in immediate condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 9-14 at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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